

Please add the following new claims 21-26:

Claims 21-26 (New)

21. A method for producing a composite motion picture image, said method comprising the steps of:

electronically generating a first image;
storing said first image in a machine readable format for selective, subsequent retrieval;
generating a second recorded image, said second image including a recordation of live characters;
integrating said first image and said second image to form a composite image, wherein said integration is accomplished in real-time as at least one of said first and said second images are being originally generated; and
displaying said composite image in real-time as said composite image is being integrated.

22. The method for producing a composite motion picture image according to claim 21, wherein:

said first image comprises a virtual background image; and
said second image comprises a live action sequence.

23. The method for producing a composite motion picture image according to claim 21, further comprising the steps of:

utilizing a camera to optically record said second image; and
displaying said real-time composite image in a viewfinder of said camera.

24. A method for producing a composite motion picture image, wherein said composite motion picture includes live characters recorded by a camera, said method comprising the steps of:

generating a first virtual image;

storing said first virtual image in a machine readable format for selective, subsequent retrieval, wherein said storing includes storing virtual position data for each element in said virtual image;

generating a second recorded image of said live characters via recordation by said camera;

storing live position data of said live characters during said generation of said second image;

calculating a spatial orientation of said camera as said camera records said live characters;

transforming said virtual position data of said first virtual image in accordance with said live position data and said spatial orientation of said camera so as to adapt said first virtual image to a perspective of said camera;

integrating said first virtual image and said second recorded image in conjunction with said transformed virtual position data to form said composite image, wherein said integration is accomplished in real-time as at least one of said first and said second images are being originally generated; and

displaying said composite image on a viewfinder of said camera as said composite image is being integrated.

25. The method for producing a composite motion picture image according to claim 24, further comprising the steps of:

generating said second image of said live characters by recording said live characters in front of a background screen; and

marking said background screen with a machine readable pattern.

26. The method for producing a composite motion picture image according to claim 25, further comprising the steps of:

marking said background screen with super-imposed horizontal and vertical bar codes, said bar codes being indicative of said spatial orientation of said camera.